

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
INFORMATION PAPER**

**SERVICE/AGENCY:** U. S. NAVY  
**APPROPRIATION ACCOUNT:** N/A  
**BUDGET ACTIVITY:** N/A  
**SUBJECT:** EA-18G BASING  
**DATE:** 17 July 2013

**1. QUESTION/REQUEST:** What is justification for single-site basing all EA-18G to NAS Whidbey Island, WA?

**RESPONSE:** Single-site basing at NAS Whidbey Island provides operational, logistics, and fiscal benefits through co-location for the Navy's Electronic Attack community.

- \* Single-site basing provides benefits from shared infrastructure with all VAQ squadrons and assets (e.g. Fleet Replacement Squadron, simulators, Fleet Readiness Center)
- \* Reduced costs across several accounts (Procurement, Military Construction, Personnel, and Operations and Maintenance) will be realized by single-site basing.

**2. QUESTION/REQUEST:** Based on past doctrine how is single-site basing all EA-18Gs in line with a two Major Regional Contingency (MRC) posture?

**RESPONSE:** Basing of the VAQ community at NAS Whidbey Island, since the early 1970's, has not been driven by the need for placement of forces to support MRC postures.

**3. QUESTION/REQUEST:** Is the single-site basing connected to the "Pivot to the Pacific" policy and does this alone justify west coast only assignment of these assets?

**RESPONSE:** No, the decision for single-site basing was made for the reasons stated above.

**4. QUESTION/REQUEST:** Were any east coast bases considered and if not, why?

**RESPONSE:** Yes, two east coast and two west coast bases were considered in 2004 when initial basing decisions were being made for the EA-18G. After careful consideration the decision for single-site basing was made for the reasons stated above.

**5. QUESTION/REQUEST:** Should we have east coast based EW assets ready to deploy to regions in the east (SWA, or Africa)?

**RESPONSE:** No, the single-site basing of VAQ on the West Coast has never prevented VAQ support in any region globally; including the east.